



STATE OF WASHINGTON
HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD

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HECB approves funds to train teachers in pilot programs

OLYMPIA — During its teleconference meeting yesterday, the Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) approved new funding for pilot projects to train teachers at Washington's public colleges and universities.

The board had planned to meet last week at Washington State University in Pullman. But the board cancelled the meeting because of events in New York City and Washington, D.C. On Friday, the board issued a public notice of its intent to hold a teleconference Monday to take action on two items.

Board members accepted the recommendations of an advisory group that recently reviewed competitive grant proposals for new programs to train teachers. Several four-year universities and one community college submitted proposals. The board voted to use \$300,000 in the state budget to support three projects during the next two years. Funds will go to:

- The University of Washington Bothell, Teacher-Training Pilot Program Extension (\$20,000);
- Green River Community College, Teacher-Training Pilot Program (\$141,481); and
- Western Washington University, Teacher-Training Pilot Program (\$138,519).

The grant program began in 1999 as a legislative initiative to stimulate innovation in the recruitment and training of K-12 teachers. Western Washington University and the University of Washington Bothell received the initial pilot project grants.

This year's \$20,000 grant to the UWB will provide for follow-up and expansion of the original pilot project. The grants to GRCC and WWU will provide much of the funding for two new initiatives. Each project involves extensive collaboration among K-12 school districts, community and technical colleges, and four-year universities.

The HECB also adopted guidelines to help public four-year institutions prepare accountability plans that will describe each institution's strategies to make meaningful and substantial progress toward achieving the Legislature's long-term performance goals.

The next meeting of the Higher Education Coordinating Board is set for Oct. 30 at Cascadia Community College in Bothell.

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